

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

1. (Currently amended) A perfuming or flavoring microcapsule comprising at least one perfuming or flavoring ingredient dispersed in or adsorbed within a polymeric carrier material, wherein the microcapsule further comprises an effective amount of a fireproofing agent susceptible of reducing the dust hazard explosive class of the microcapsule to an St-1 classification, wherein said fireproofing agent is not NaHCO₃.
2. (Currently amended) A [[The]] perfuming or flavoring microcapsule according to claim 1 comprising at least one perfuming or flavoring ingredient dispersed in or adsorbed within a polymeric carrier material, wherein the microcapsule further comprises an effective amount of a fireproofing agent susceptible of reducing the dust hazard explosive class of the microcapsule to an St-1 classification, wherein the fireproofing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, potassium silicate, sodium carbonate, ~~sodium hydrogen carbonate~~, monoammonium phosphate or carbonate, diammonium phosphate, mono-, di- or trisodium phosphate, sodium hypophosphite, melamine cyanurate, chlorinated hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof.
3. (Original) The perfuming or flavoring microcapsule according to claim 1, which comprises from 5 to 90% by weight of fireproofing agent relative to the dry weight of the microcapsule.
4. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] perfuming or flavoring microcapsule according to claim 3 comprising at least one perfuming or flavoring ingredient dispersed in or adsorbed within a polymeric carrier material, wherein the microcapsule further comprises an effective amount of a fireproofing agent susceptible of reducing the dust hazard explosive class of the microcapsule to an St-1 classification, which comprises from 5 to 15% by weight of fireproofing agent relative to the dry weight of the microcapsule.

5. (Original) The perfuming or flavoring microcapsule according to claim 1, which comprises from 1 to 80% by weight of perfume or flavor relative to the total weight of the microcapsule.

6. (Original) The perfuming or flavoring microcapsule according to claim 1, which comprises from 1 to 50% by weight of perfume or flavor relative to the total weight of the microcapsule.

7. (Currently amended) A method for the preparation of perfuming or flavoring microcapsules as defined in claim 1, which comprises adding ~~[[a]]~~ the fireproofing agent to an aqueous emulsion of the perfuming or flavoring ingredient in the carrier polymeric material, and spray-drying the obtained emulsion to form a powder, ~~comprising microcapsules of at least one perfuming or flavoring ingredient dispersed in or adsorbed within a polymeric carrier material and containing an effective amount of a fireproofing agent susceptible of reducing the dust hazard explosive class of the microcapsule to an St-1 classification.~~

Claim 8: Currently cancelled

Claim 9: Currently cancelled

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the fireproofing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, potassium silicate, sodium carbonate, ~~sodium hydrogen carbonate~~, monoammonium phosphate or carbonate, diammonium phosphate, mono-, di- or trisodium phosphate, sodium hypophosphite, melamine cyanurate, chlorinated hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof.

11. (Original) A perfumed product selected from the group consisting of a perfume, a Cologne, an after-shave lotion, a soap, a bath or shower gel, a deodorant, a body lotion, a shampoo or another hair-care product, a detergent, a fabric softener, a household cleaner and a cleaning and deodorizing block for toilet tanks, which further comprises perfuming microcapsules according to claim 1.

12. (Original) A perfumed product selected from the group consisting of a perfume, a Cologne, an after-shave lotion, a soap, a bath or shower gel, a deodorant, a body lotion, a shampoo or another hair-care product, a detergent, a fabric softener, a household cleaner and a cleaning and deodorizing block for toilet tanks, which includes perfuming microcapsules made according to the method of claim 7.

13. (Original) A food, beverage or pharmaceutical product, which includes flavoring microcapsules according to claim 1.

14. (Original) A food, beverage or pharmaceutical product, which includes flavoring microcapsules made according to the method of claim 7.

15. (New) A method for the preparation of perfuming or flavoring microcapsules as defined in claim 1, which comprises impregnating a porous polymeric carrier material with the perfuming or flavoring ingredient and coating the resulting system with a fireproofing agent.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the fireproofing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, potassium silicate, sodium carbonate, monoammonium phosphate or carbonate, diammonium phosphate, mono-, di- or trisodium phosphate, sodium hypophosphite, melamine cyanurate, chlorinated hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof.

17. (New) A perfumed product selected from the group consisting of a perfume, a Cologne, an after-shave lotion, a soap, a bath or shower gel, a deodorant, a body lotion, a shampoo or another hair-care product, a detergent, a fabric softener, a household cleaner and a cleaning and deodorizing block for toilet tanks, which includes perfuming microcapsules made according to the method of claim 15.

18. (New) A food, beverage or pharmaceutical product, which includes flavoring microcapsules made according to the method of claim 15.

19. (New) A method for the preparation of perfuming or flavoring microcapsules as defined in claim 1, which comprises spray-drying an aqueous emulsion of a perfuming or flavoring

ingredient in a polymeric carrier, and dry blending the spray-dried powder obtained with a fireproofing agent in a powdered form.

20. (New) The method of claim 19, wherein the fireproofing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, potassium silicate, sodium carbonate, monoammonium phosphate or carbonate, diammonium phosphate, mono-, di- or trisodium phosphate, sodium hypophosphite, melamine cyanurate, chlorinated hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof.

21. (New) A perfumed product selected from the group consisting of a perfume, a Cologne, an after-shave lotion, a soap, a bath or shower gel, a deodorant, a body lotion, a shampoo or another hair-care product, a detergent, a fabric softener, a household cleaner and a cleaning and deodorizing block for toilet tanks, which includes perfuming microcapsules made according to the method of claim 19.

22. (New) A food, beverage or pharmaceutical product, which includes flavoring microcapsules made according to the method of claim 19.

23. (New) A method of reducing the violence of the explosion of a perfuming or flavoring microcapsule during its suspension in the air, which comprises adding a fireproof agent to said microcapsule.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the fireproofing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, potassium silicate, sodium carbonate, monoammonium phosphate or carbonate, diammonium phosphate, mono-, di- or trisodium phosphate, sodium hypophosphite, melamine cyanurate, chlorinated hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof.

25. (New) A perfuming or flavoring microcapsule comprising at least one perfuming or flavoring ingredient dispersed in or adsorbed within a polymeric carrier material, wherein the microcapsule further comprises an effective amount of a fireproofing agent susceptible of reducing the dust hazard explosive class of the microcapsule to an St-1 classification, wherein said fireproofing agent is selected from the group consisting of sodium silicate, potassium silicate, sodium carbonate, monoammonium phosphate or carbonate, diammonium

phosphate, mono-, di- or trisodium phosphate, sodium hypophosphite, melamine cyanurate, chlorinated hydrocarbons and mixtures thereof.